



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
Dec. 17, 2009

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State Health Officer Terry Dwelle Assumes Chair of the National Board of Public Health Examiners

BISMARCK, N.D. – State Health Officer Terry Dwelle, M.D., assumed the chair of the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE) on Dec. 14, 2009.

The NBPHE was incorporated in 2005 and charged with developing, preparing, administering and evaluating a voluntary certification examination for graduates of public health schools and programs accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health.

Dr. Dwelle was nominated to the NBPHE in 2006 by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials as the organization's official representative. He succeeds Dean Donna Petersen of the University of South Florida College of Public Health.

"I look forward to chairing the Board's efforts to advance public health certification process," Dwelle said. "This certification process provides a standardized way of ensuring the nation's public health workforce has a basic understanding of public health concepts."

Dr. Dwelle was appointed to the office of state health officer by Governor John Hoeven in October 2001. Previously, Dr. Dwelle served as chief medical officer for the department. Dr. Dwelle earned his medical degree from St. Louis University School of Medicine, graduating cum laude. He later received a master's degree in public health and tropical medicine from Tulane University. Dr. Dwelle is a member of the charter class of Certified in Public Health professionals.

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More than 1,000 individuals have registered for the Certified in Public Health exam since its inaugural offering across the world in August 2008. For more information about the exam, please visit the website at www.publichealthexam.org.

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